

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Port of Constanta	DATE DISTR.	26 Oct. 1955
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1. Approach to Constanta: On the approach to Constanta the ship sailed two miles off the Fusla lighthouse through the minefield shown in the North European and Mediterranean Routing Instructions (NEMEDRI). Along this course the ship drew an average of 10 feet of water. Because NEMEDRI was not consulted, the ship erred in its course. In doing so it was determined that this field was free of mines. The minefield was indicated by white buoys anchored at one mile intervals extending from Fusla to the red lighted buoy 100 meters distant from the breakwater at Constanta.

antiaircraft installations and a submarine base were being constructed along the coast between Fusla and Mangalia. Since this area of construction was a military zone, the minefield was shown offshore.

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2. Port entrance formalities and controls: A pilot, accompanied by a soldier, boarded the ship as it approached the buoy outside the harbor. The ship was directed to an anchorage in the outer basin where it was subjected to a control and inspection. The control committee was composed of two customs officials in uniform, a captain in the frontier guards and eight soldiers under his command. The committee asked if the ship's complement had field glasses or telescopes, cameras, weapons and ammunition, and whether anyone possessed nylon hose or other articles for women. They also inquired as to the quantity of provisions, cigarettes, and foreign money possessed. A five-day ration of cigarettes, one package for each man daily, was allowed, but the other items were sealed in a cupboard in the salon. The radio transmitter was sealed but the receiver was left free. Everyone except the captain, the cook and a man on watch in the engine room were assembled in the salon and the ship searched. Those conducting the search were in two groups, each accompanied by members of the crew. Both groups started amidship; one group worked toward the bow and the other toward the stern. Following the control and inspection, the ship moored at the end of the North Pier and the pilot, doctor and control committee left the ship.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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3. Freedom of movement: One-third of the crew was permitted ashore each day from 0800 to 2300 hours. The passes were obtained by submitting to the Romtrans Agency, a day in advance, the list of those to go ashore. Then, the following day, those going ashore showed their port identification cards to the guard on the ship who checked their names off on a list. The guard instructed them to report to the office of the organization entrusted with guarding the frontiers to get their passes. At the office their port identification cards were exchanged for the passes on which the hours of liberty were noted. They were allowed to depart by the customs exit gate after their passes had been examined and they had been searched by a soldier of the frontier guards.
4. Harbor security: Workmen doing the loading and unloading showed their passes when entering and leaving the harbor area. Although they were not searched when entering, each was subjected to a search on his departure.
5. After five days the cigarettes were consumed and the ship applied for an additional ration. The customs captain, a first lieutenant in the frontier guards, and an official of the Romtrans Agency went to the ship to make the additional ration available, but since they did not have their permit papers with them, the guard allowed them to board only after getting authorization by telephone.
6. Port facilities, construction and activity: On the North Quay [] the mounting of six cranes had been completed. On the cranes there were some words in German, the figure 3,000 kilograms and also the figures 18,000 and 17,000. The rails on which the cranes operated were completed about one-third of the way along the quay, but construction was underway to extend them to the Grain Quay. 25X1
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7. A new warehouse, 60 meters long and 25 meters wide with a ground floor of concrete, was being constructed on the North Quay. The three end berths on the south side of North Pier were in ruins. A floating crane, estimated of 30-ton capacity and three divers were busy repairing the pier. There were two freighters in the floating dock in the New Basin.
8. Naval vessels: The destroyer [] was in the ways of the NAVROM dockyard in the New Basin undergoing repairs and overhauling. A minesweeper [] was being repaired on the water at the same dockyard. 25X1
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9. Merchant vessels: [] activities at the Petroleum Pier. Four large tankers could be loaded at the same time. A Soviet tanker of about 16,000 tons loaded its cargo in about 36 hours. Two Soviet tankers obtained their fuel at the pier. [] tanker of an estimated 15,000 tons loaded in 36 hours. A Polish tanker of 18,000 tons and [] tanker of 18,000 tons were loaded as were a 3,500-ton tanker [] 25X1
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10. Military affairs: [] there were about 40,000 Soviet officers and men stationed in Constanta, among them 17 generals. [] some Rumanians whisper to each other when some Soviets walked past the front of the bar in which they were sitting. [] the Rumanians cursed. [] Soviet soldiers were pleased and contented in Constanta as they had more privileges there than in the USSR. 25X1
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Sometime after 15 April 1955, a Soviet delegation headed by a general inspected the installations and military bases in the vicinity of Constanta.

11. May Day festivities:

[redacted] on the evening of 1 May, the whole town was decorated with Soviet and Romanian flags and [redacted] in many places the phrase "Long Live the Romanian and Soviet Friendship" was written in large letters. Pictures, 2 by 4 meters in size, of Stalin, Lenin, Marx and other prominent Soviet statesmen hung above those of the Romanian ministers. The latter pictures were about 40 by 60 cm. in size. Bulganin's picture was exhibited in the show windows of certain shops and in others, Stalin's and Lenin's pictures were exhibited. The people showed no interest in the pictures. [redacted] the parade scheduled for that day did not take place.

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12. information:

The manager of the Romtrans Agency placed an order for penicillin, streptomycin, ultra-septyl and X-ray lamps [redacted]

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